

RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM

FY 2009 Funding Cycle

STATE ADMINISTERING AGENCY

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs

Bill Johnson, Director
401 Adams Avenue
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

PROGRAM STAFF

Rob Grant, Recreation Programs Director
Phone: 334-242-5483
Fax: 334-242-3381
E-mail: rob.grant@adeca.alabama.gov

Jody Waites, Program Supervisor
Phone: 334-353-4384
Fax: 334-353-4311
E-mail: jody.waites@adeca.alabama.gov

FUNDING CYCLE

All eligible project sponsors are notified of the timing and application procedures, in writing, at the beginning of the cycle. The applications are reviewed, rated, and ranked by ADECA program staff and up to four members of the Alabama Recreational Trails Advisory Board. Applications will be accepted from May 1, 2008, through September 2, 2008.

MAXIMUM GRANT SIZE

The maximum grant amount that can be applied for this year is **\$125,000**. Only one application may be submitted by an applicant; however, an application may contain multiple sites and the non-federal matching share may exceed the minimum required to satisfy the federal matching requirement. Jurisdictions with an open RTP grant or LWCF grant cannot apply unless the project will be complete by September 2, 2008.

RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) was created in 1998 to assist in acquiring, developing, or improving trail and trail-related resources. Eligible applicants include federal and state agencies, local governments and private sector organizations (see eligible organizations and agencies). Applications submitted during this funding cycle will be competing for appropriations from fiscal year 2009 beginning October 1, 2008.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Amount Available:	\$1,600,000 (Estimated)
Maximum Grant :	\$ 125,000
Federal Share:	80 Percent
Matching Source:	Cash, In-kind, Donations
Applications Due:	September 2, 2008 (Post Marked)
Completion Date:	October 1, 2010
Project Selection:	Competitive

MATCHING REQUIREMENT

The Federal share for the RTP is **80%** of the total eligible project costs up to \$100,000. The non-Federal share (20%) may come from state, local, or private sources. Other Federal shares cannot be included unless specific legislation allows funds to be used for the matching share (e.g., HUD Community Development Block Grants (P.L. 93-383), Public Works Employment Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-369).

A Federal agency sponsor may provide its own funds toward an RTP project as additional Federal share until the total Federal share reaches 95 % of the project cost. The limitation is intended to ensure commitment to the project from state, local, or private co-sponsors. Eligible Federal matching programs include but are not limited to:

- Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4607-8).
- Federal-aid highway program funds, such as the Federal Lands Highway Program,

National Scenic Byways Program, and Transportation Enhancement Activities (23 U.S.C. 101 et seq.).

- Funds made available under the Federal Emergency Management Administration.
- Federal funds made available to Indian tribes.
- Challenge Cost-Share programs of Federal land management agencies.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Local Governments, State Agencies, Federal Agencies, and Private Organizations (with a public co-sponsor)

PERMISSIBLE USES

Applications may be submitted for the following activities:

- Development of urban trail linkages near homes and workplaces. This category includes trail linkages to schools, parks, and existing trails.
- Maintenance of existing recreational trails.
- Restoration of areas damaged by usage of recreational trails and back country terrain.
- Development of trail-side and trail-head facilities that meet goals identified by the National Recreational Trails Advisory Committee. This includes trail components or associated facilities which serve the purpose and safe use of the recreational trail and may include but are not limited to the following: 1) Drainage, 2) Crossings, 3) Stabilization, 4) Parking, 5) Signage, 6) Controls, 7) Shelters, and 8) Water, Sanitary, and Access Facilities.
- The provision of features which facilitate the access and use of trails by persons with disabilities.
- The acquisition of easements for trails, or for corridors identified in a state trail plan.
- The acquisition of fee simple title to property from a willing seller.

- The construction of new trails on state, county, municipal, or private lands, where a recreational need for such construction is shown.
- Only as otherwise permissible, and where necessary and required by a State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), construction of new trails crossing federal lands, where such construction is approved by the administering agency of the state, and the federal agency or agencies charged with management of all impacted lands, such approval to be contingent upon compliance by the federal agency with all applicable laws.
- Purchase of trail maintenance equipment (certain restrictions apply).

USES NOT PERMITTED

- Condemnation of any kind of interest in property.
- Construction of any recreational trail on National Forest System lands for motorized uses unless such lands—
 1. have been allocated for uses other than wilderness by an approved Forest land and resource management plan or have been released to uses other than wilderness by an Act of Congress, and
 2. where construction is otherwise consistent with the management direction in such approved land and resource management plan.
- Upgrading, expanding, or otherwise facilitating motorized use or access to trails predominantly used by nonmotorized trail users and on which, as of May 1, 1991, motorized use is either prohibited or has not occurred.

Please contact ADECA's Recreation Programs staff if you are interested in obtaining more information about the Recreational Trails Program or require technical assistance.

(Revised 3/14/2008)